

Message Text

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS:AORG, AFIN, OECD

SUBJECT: 1976 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET

REF: OECD PARIS 27348, OECD DOC. C(75)176

1. CURRENT US POLICY WITH RESPECT TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION BUDGETS STRESSES PRINCIPLE OF "NO NET PROGRAM INCREASE". NEW FULLY JUSTIFIED PROGRAMS ARE TO BE ADDED ONLY AT EXPENSE OF OLDER PROGRAMS OF LESSER PRIORITY.

2. THIS POLICY HAS BEEN FOLLOWED BY OMB IN ITS REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT'S FY 1977 BUDGET PRESENTATION TO REDUCE "CONTRIBUTIONS" APPROPRIATION ESTIMATE SUBSTANTIALLY IN ACCORD WITH THE PRESIDENT'S DETERMINATION TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL BUDGET BY \$28 BILLION.

3. GIVEN THE FOREGOING STRICTURES ON POLICY WE UNABLE AGREE TO PROPOSED 2.2 PERCENT INCREASE IN REAL TERMS FOR FY 76 BUDGET.

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4. MISSION SHOULD GIVE PRIORITY TO ELIMINATING PROPOSED INCREASE OF FF 2, 118,000 IN CHAPTER 13 (ADMINISTRATION). OBVIOUS TARGETS ARE:

A. ELIMINATION OF REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL SECRETARIAT POSITIONS.

B. REDUCTION IN OFFICIAL TRAVEL, PARTICULARLY THE "RESERVE" FOR UNFORESEEN TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS; A REVIEW OF TRAVEL STANDARDS MAY ALSO BE IN ORDER.

C. MAINTAIN TRAINING PROGRAM AT EXISTING LEVELS.

D. ELIMINATION OF REAL GROWTH IN BUILDING MAINTENANCE COSTS (FF 309,000) AND MATERIAL REPLACEMENT (FF 600,000).

5. AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN A NO REAL GROWTH BUDGET FOR FY 76 IS ACCEPTANCE OF FACT THAT NEW DEMANDS ON SECRETARIAT MUST BE MET BY REDEPLOYMENT OF RESOURCES FROM LOWER PRIORITY ACTIVITIES. PROPOSALS FOR MODEST REDUCTIONS IN STAFFING IN CHAPTERS VIII, IX, AND XI ARE HELPFUL IN THIS RESPECT.

6. ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ALL COSTS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FUND'S OPERATION WILL BE MET FROM INCOME RECEIVED, WE CONCUR IN PROPOSAL TO CREATE SUPPORT STAFF (PARA 27.9) AT RECOMMENDED LEVEL, INCLUDING FROZEN POSITIONS AS SPECIFIED.

7. IN PRESENTING ABOVE POSITIONS, YOU MAY WISH TO STRESS IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO COMBATING INFLATIONARY TRENDS AND OUR DETERMINATION TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES. WE SYMPATHIZE WITH SECRETARIAT'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO COPE WITH NEW DEMANDS, BUT IN VIEW OF CURRENT SITUATION CANNOT AGREE TO IT.

8. INSTRUCTIONS ON ADDITIONAL SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET BEING PREPARED FOR USE BY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO BUDGET COMMITTEE.

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9. POSITION ON PROPOSED TRANSFERS TO PART II ALSO IN PREPARATION. INGERSOLL

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